

"An Act Concerning the Prevailing Wage Threshold"

**Labor and Public Employees Committee
Thursday, March 16, 2006**

Chairman Prague, Chairman Ryan, members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee, my name is --- and I am testifying on behalf of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) in opposition to **House Bill 5741 "An Act Concerning the Prevailing Wage Thresholds."**

The IBEW sees this bill as counter-intuitive to the goal of ensuring quality jobs and public works projects. We feel that prevailing wage requirements are needed safeguards for the working men and woman of Connecticut. It guarantees that individuals are paid fair and adequate wages while working on behalf of the residents of this state.

A parallel can also be drawn between fair wages, in the form of prevailing wages, and quality work. Prevailing wage requirements are a means of ensuring that unscrupulous contractors are not attracted to these projects. Projects that adhere to prevailing wage requirements have historically been completed on time and under budget.

Thus it would be in the best interest, and would be fiscally beneficial to the state, to reject this legislation. Not only would those working on publicly-funded projects be adequately compensated, but the overall project would be of good quality.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.